

Tunisian envoy arrives

DEBRIE (UPI) — Tunisian Minister of Culture and Information Hedi Ben Ali arrived in Amman Friday via Jordan with a message from Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali to His Majesty King Hussein. "My visit falls within the framework of coordination among Arab bodies on Arab and international issues, including the Palestine question," the Tunisian minister told Peters. The visit follows the meetings of the Arab Maghrib Union leaders. But his visit should cover large areas of Tunisia and caused great issues of law and property (see page 2). He also expressed appreciation for old Arab and friendly countries presented to Tunisia. Upon arrival he was received by Minister of Information Hervé Le Gall, the Jordanian governor, the Jordan police director, senior officials, and the Tunisian ambassador to Jordan.

Volume 15 Number 4300

AMMAN SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1990, JUMADA AL THANI 30, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times

DR. BAKRI T. BITAR

Eye specialist and surgeon

Ex-Eye specialist at King Hussein Medical Centre.
Chief of Ophthalmic dept at Queen Alia Military Hospital.

Announces

The opening of his private clinic
Jabal Amman - Third Circle
Near Khalidi Hospital

Tel. 640940 (Clinic) 665035 (Home)

Rampaging settlers accused of burning Burin mosque

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

— Arsonists burned down a mosque in the Israeli-occupied West Bank Friday and Palestinians blamed Jewish settlers for the attack.

Residents of the village of Burin, south of Nablus, said the mosque interior was gutted causing more than \$75,000 in damage.

Israel's "civil administration," in an unusual move, announced it would pay to restore the mosque.

Military sources said the army and police were investigating the attack. They declined to comment on the accusation against the settlers.

However a security source said settlers raided the village the previous day, smashed school windows and scrawled in Hebrew the slogan "Blood for blood."

Villagers said they believed the fire was set by Jewish residents of the nearby Yizhar settlement, who contest ownership of land located between the two communities.

In a previous land dispute, a shepherd from Burin killed an Israeli from another nearby settlement, Bracha, as well as a son of the UPI news agency working with an Arab journalist he was wearing.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

WTN cameraman Qassem Ali, 33, said Israeli policemen punched, slapped and arrested him after he filmed them blindfolding an Arab journalist working with an Arab headress he was wearing.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

Israeli secret police agents raided Ali's house last week, put four pistols to his head and ordered him to report to their headquarters.

In the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian cameraman working for a British television agency was briefly detained after he filmed Israeli police trying to blindfold and gag another Arab journalist.

Both journalists were on their way to cover professional association elections in Gaza Strip.

Military sources said Ali was taken to a police station after refusing to identify himself. He was released later, but his identification papers remained with the police.

Ali insisted he presented his ID card and press credentials when he was asked to do so.

King urges all people to help in greening Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has urged Jordanians to plant more trees in the country and help green the kingdom by the end of the century, he said.

In a telephone message broadcast over Radio Jordan's Arabic service Thursday, the King said that planting trees in the kingdom was a national responsibility and a national contribution towards the worldwide campaign to protect the environment and stem pollution.

Arab Arbor Day does not mean planting trees on a particular day of the year," the King said. "It should be an incentive

for all citizens to take part in the planting of trees around the year so that the country can achieve its target by the end of the century," he said.

A tree planting celebration was held Thursday at Abu Alunda southeast of Amman under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. The Queen, accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses Prince Hamzeh and Prince Hashem, planted an olive sapling and was joined in the planting of trees by local residents, officials and students. The planting took place in a new public garden at Abu Alunda which the Queen inaugurated earlier.



Ministry outlines literacy strategy

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education is implementing an international plan for eradicating illiteracy in Jordan in cooperation with the Amman-based regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), according to Hassan Al Usta, director of academic education at the Ministry of Education.

Usta said the plan, which was recently endorsed by the educational council, aims to eradicate illiteracy in the Kingdom by the year 2000 in implementation of resolutions adopted by the first National Educational Conference held in 1987.

Usta said that the ministry's

programme this year entails launching intensive campaigns in selected areas of the Kingdom like the Jordan Valley and Madaba where the ministry would try to conduct a survey to determine the number of illiterates prior to asking department of education to provide adult and literacy education programmes in the respective regions.

The campaign will involve showing documentary films and seminars to spread awareness among illiterates over the need for learning and ministry teams will be distributing brochures in the course of the campaign. Usta said.

Frost severely damages Jordan Valley crops

AMMAN (J.T.) — Frost weather in the past two days has caused severe damage to thousands of dunums of agricultural land and crops in the Jordan Valley, according to the chairman of the federation of Jordan Valley Farmers Association, Mohammad Al Tawil.

Tawil was quoted as saying by the press that large crops like potatoes, aubergines, pepper, beans and tomatoes had been affected, specially in the low-lying areas along the River Jordan and at Dammus and Bisharat regions.

Tawil said nearly 6,000 dunums of land in these areas were affected by the cold spell, which also damaged nearly 10 per cent

of the banana crop. Tawil urged farmers to spray their vegetables with insecticides to help reduce the effect of the frost during the night.

Cold spell to continue

A spokesman for the Department of Meteorology said that the cold spell, which brought in very cold winds from the east and drastically reduced temperatures, was due to end by Friday evening.

He said that the lowest recorded temperature was at Shobak minus seven degrees.

He said that clouds would appear and rain would fall in most regions ending the frost and the cold spell.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES INDIA, AUSTRALIA: His Majesty King Hussein has cabled congratulations to the president of India and the governor-general of Australia on the occasion of their countries' national days. In his cable, the King wished the two leaders good health and their peoples further progress and prosperity (Petra).

SOFIA'S POLICIES SAME: The new leadership in Bulgaria has expressed its intention of maintaining its policies with regard to the Palestine problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict. In a message delivered to His Majesty King Hussein by Bulgaria's ambassador designate to Jordan, the leadership in Sofia said that Bulgaria's policies and attitudes will remain the same (Petra).

FORMER DEPUTY DIES: Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar Friday announced the death of former Deputy Ma'nuf Rabah (Petra).

DISMISSED APPLICANT GET PRIORITY: Minister of Education and Higher Education Dr. Mohammad Hamam has said that he has informed the presidents of Jordan's universities of the government's decision to give priority with regard to employment to those dismissed for political reasons.

Amman Rostrum to highlight Arabic music in original form

By Nelly Lama
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The National Music Conservatory of the Nour Al Hussein Foundation has just announced two important events that will take place on Jordanian soil in the near future:

The 12th meeting of the executive board of the Arab Academy of Music (Arab League) and the first Arab Music Rostrum organised by the International Music Council of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). It will be held in Amman from Feb. 3-7. The aim of the rostrum is to orient the countries of the world to original examples of Arabic music as handed by the participating (Arab) states.

The Arab Academy of Music, which includes 22 Arab states, organises a general conference of music once every two years preceded a year earlier by a meeting of the executive board. The last meeting was held at the "Institut de Monde Arabe" in Paris; the subject tackled was the "Arab-European musical dialogue."

The B a g h d a d - b a s e d academy looks into the development of music education as well as the propagation and popularisation of musical culture, reaching out to the public. It researches all facets of traditional Arabic music and watches over all musical, vocal and instrumental productions.

The International Council of Music it was established under the umbrella of the UNESCO. Paris in 1949 as a non-political consultative council responsible for musical affairs. It has grown to 23 member states and includes 50 prominent personalities, composers, performers, researchers, music historians and music educators.

The council allows the different national and international music organisations to communicate and cooperate together, enables more such organisations to be established

where the need arises. It organises festivals and conferences and helps publish musical compositions. It distributes musical instruments and forms expert exchanges on an individual and group basis.

It studies the social and financial situation of professional musicians and musical establishments.

It also encourages the introduction of all kinds of music into the public music curriculum. It encourages the exchange of ideas on the different methods of music education.

It was in 1981 that the executive secretary of the International Council of Music, in cooperation with the secretary of the Arab Academy of Music, Mu'min Bashir, suggested that an Arab Musical Rostrum be held. The National Conservatory of Music in Jordan responded to the call and finally made it possible. It invited many Arab broadcasting services as well as the Union of Arab Broadcasters and members of the International Academy of Music etc. Other such rostra are held the world over, according to geographical order, assuming quality exhibits of local musical culture.

In the past such rostra were held for Asian, African and European music as well as the music of the United States. Latin America as the Caribbean, the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean offered its contribution as well.

The rostrum requires a sixty-minute recording of each country's music. That should include one or more forms of music such as "traditional" classical, folk or modernised traditional music; i.e. any art music that uses traditional forms and techniques. A research paper should accompany the recordings.

The Rostrum on Arabic Music is divided according to geographical boundaries: "north-west Africa, the Nile and Red Sea area, the Eastern Arab area, the Arabian Gulf and Arabian Peninsula."

Both activities (rostrum and

the 12th meeting) will be inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein Saturday Feb. 3 at the Royal Cultural Centre. A speech by the minister of culture will follow. Students, teachers of music and musicians from all over the Kingdom are advised to attend.

The Rostrum will hold its first meeting at the Philadelphia hotel.

A committee of professionals will listen to the tapes and explanations and will impart honorary status to the deserving parties following such criteria as the authenticity of style, the artistic standard of the music and performance and the quality of musical productions.

The winning participants will have their works broadcast over all members stations. A miscellany of the works will be recorded and printed.

"Every artist that is creative should be introduced to the public" suggests Abdul Hamid Hamam, associate professor of music at Yarmouk University, "that way, he will develop and be obliged to get better."

At the end of the Rostrum, there will be an open discussion and an exchange of ideas, suggestions and advice.

A seminar on music in Jordan will be held on the last day of the Rostrum.

"Jordan is always blamed in that all its music is 'new'. That is false," explains Hamam. "Music was always there, but it has only been officially and documented lately. Some of our music has been usurped, other countries claim its origin. We have bedouin music, peasant music etc."

"If you look for the valuable, you will find it" reiterated Mazen Shukr, director of Public Relations of Nour Al Hussein Foundation, quoting an Arab saying.

Such statements reflect the keen interest and excitement elicited already by the prospect of such a constructive meeting.

"Yousra Arnaia is the pioneer who stressed the study

Jordan opposes UNRWA cuts

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Foreign Ministry's Department of Palestinian Affairs Friday issued a statement expressing total opposition to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) plans to reduce its services to the refugees and displaced persons living in Jordan.

"UNRWA's plan crystallised early this year when the United States declared its intention to reduce its annual contribution to the agency through contributions from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

five used to get a sandwich a day and a hot meal a week from the agency through contributions

from the European Community (EC), which finances the nutrition programme with \$2 million a year, but UNRWA spends some \$700,000 prepare and distribute the food to the children, according to agency sources.

UNRWA Director in Jordan Ele Saaf told a news conference

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1973.

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General: MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAJ JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Example to be followed

WEDNESDAY'S meeting of the General Assembly of the Peoples Committee for the Support of the Palestinian Intifada offers an exemplary show of solidarity with the Palestinians under occupation by citizens of all faiths, ideologies and origin. The composition of the general assembly and the committee which executes its decisions and recommendations tell a fine story of Jordanian cohesion and determination to bolster the Palestinian uprising, now in its third year. The funds raised by the committee and those which are expected to be raised this year manifest our people's commitments to translate our vocal and moral support into solid deeds and actions. If only the support of Jordanians can be duplicated in other corners of the Arab World, the Palestinian struggle can continue for as long as it takes to achieve liberation and statehood.

In this context it would be a most useful step if tax structures in Arab countries could be amended in a way that allows individual and corporate contributions to the intifada to be treated as tax deductibles. This is one way how more and more Arabs can be encouraged to contribute even bigger sums of money to their brethren in the occupied territories. It will be recalled that this is how Jews all over the world had succeeded in accumulating huge funds to aid and support the creation of Israel and assure its survival till now. It is high time therefore that the Arab countries begin to duplicate this successful Jewish experience in order to speed up the process of liberation and establishing a Palestinian state.

Of course there are other ways available to lend meaningful support for the Palestinians under occupation. For example, a special private Arab fund for the support of the intifada can be created alongside the Arab League's financial support. The experiences of the Jordanian committee can, of course be put at the disposal of all other Arab countries which have yet to begin their material support for the Palestinians. All citizens in this country feel a special duty to step to the rescue of their brothers and sisters in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and that is why they have taken such an early initiative in that direction right from the moment the intifada was ignited more than two years ago. Still the other Arab peoples are duty-bound to share with Jordanians and Palestinians this national responsibility by initiating their own respective efforts to lend tangible support for the intifada. The success story of the Jordanian effort to help and support the Palestinian people needs to be repeated elsewhere in the Arab World and soon for the avowed Arab solidarity with the Palestinian intifada to take on a real meaning and credibility.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

The Belgian foreign minister's understanding of King Hussein's concern over the situation in the Middle East and the continued Jewish immigration to Palestine, reflects Europe's response to the requirements of peace in our region, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily in an editorial Friday. The paper said that the King had presented the facts about the situation of the region to the foreign minister of Belgium, a member of the European Community which had in the past displayed concern over the situation and desire to help establish peace. Indeed the time is more ripe than ever before for the international community in general and the European Community in particular to help in the process of ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and Israel's aggressive policies which, if allowed to continue, are bound to bring more tragedies for the people of the Middle East, the paper said. The King has explained to the Belgian minister that Israel is not only thwarting efforts towards peace but it has also been bringing in more Jews to be settled in the occupied Arab lands and preparing plans for further aggression on the Arabs, the paper said. The King's call for a quick end to the Israeli occupation constitutes a serious warning to the world of the danger inherent in Israel's policies in the Arab region, the paper concluded.

Al Dostour daily on Friday dwelt on Prime Minister Mudar Badran's statement to Agence France Presse in which he stressed the concept that Jordan is not Palestine and will not serve as a national homeland for the Palestinians whose lands have been occupied since 1948. The paper echoed the prime minister's views that as the Jewish state continues to face internal problems and an escalation of tension among its political parties it tends to direct its public's attention to external issues and mobilise the Israeli public towards a new aggression on the Arabs. The paper said that in the face of the uprising in the occupied lands the Israeli leaders try to find an outlet to the dilemma and an end to Arab resistance to occupation by trying to assert that Jordan will serve as a homeland for the Palestinians whose lands should be settled by new Jewish settlers from the Eastern bloc. Indeed the new arrivals of Soviet Jews in Israel had encouraged the Israeli leadership to become adamant in its position and to adhere to the concept of Jordan can serve as a homeland for the Palestinian Arabs the paper said. In this case, the paper said there can be no question on about the fact that Tel Aviv is continuing to deceive the world public opinion by bragging about its desire to have peace with its neighbours.

Saw Al Shaab daily commented on a statement by Shimon Peres in Cairo where he said that the concerned parties in the Middle East problem were about to reach a compromise solution but insisted that the PLO should not be involved. The paper said that Peres who has no weight now since he is not a prime minister of Israel nor does he represent the Israeli government in Egypt, could not bring forward any evidence that the concerned parties are about to agree on a formula to end the Palestine problem. It said that if Peres does not wish to have the PLO involved in the solution then it is quite clear that he is bluffing his audience and trying to gain more time for Israel to consolidate its hold on the Arab region. It is impossible, said the paper, to have a solution without the involvement of the people whose land has been usurped and their representatives who continue to advocate the Arab rights in Palestine.

View From Amman

A salute to the intifada

Greetings to Jerusalem

IT has been quite a while since I last wrote for the Jordan Times. Since then much has taken place not only in Jordan but in Palestine, the region, in East Europe and internationally as well. In Palestine, the Intifada is nothing short of a glorious revolution that slowly but surely has changed the grim reality of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Since the advent of modern Zionism to the area, almost a century ago, the Palestinians have pinned hopes on others to help them. Finally, despairing that serious help would ever come either from Arab or other sources, they decided to take matters into their own hands. The decision was momentous for several reasons. First, because no one, on the eve of the great uprising, the intifada, Dec. 9, 1987, thought that such a happening was imminent. On the contrary, Arab and non-Arab analysts and observers were looking for signs of life elsewhere, in the now obviously dead "peace process". Since then no one knows why the Palestinians, already under occupation for two decades, decided to rise up. And rise they did, and in the most valiant and glorious manner. For whatever the future may bring and however the Arab-Israeli conflict may turn out, the Palestinians, under the crudest and meanest conditions imaginable are writing their history in their own blood on their own walls.

It is as if an entire nation all of a sudden discovered itself and decided to act upon that discovery. That is the second reason why the uprising when it commenced was unusual. It was not commenced by a distinguished well-known leader, an intellectual, imam or a mahdi but by young children, some closer to childhood than puberty; by women, old men, men, even invalids stricken with paralysis like Sheikh Ramadan Yasin. The young and old,

armed with Hamas, also meaning enthusiasm, and sticks and stones have been battling for their land and dignity. They have salvaged their dignity and pride and have proven to themselves and to others who care to notice that Palestine, the land of milk and honey from time immemorial, can produce yet again another generation of heroes.

Not a day passes that one does not witness yet another proof of the quite dignified resolve. While one hand throws a stone, the other holds the olive branch. Mothers celebrate; a Zaghroutah, an ululation, not a scream, is heard when another victim joins the caravan of martyrs. In the newspapers announcing the death of another young Palestinian, male or female, the bereaved family invites people, friends and others to share with them not their sadness, but pride and joy in the three days specified for such occasions.

Why did the Palestinians decide to resist? No one knows why the people behave the way they do or why they have chosen the path.

It is not a one man revolution: there has not been Egypt's Urrabi, a Gandhi or a Nelson Mandela. And as the loneliness of the resistance continues and the hardships increase, the pace of the intifada is maintained. As though it has acquired an inner dynamic and a life of its own. For lonely it surely is, what with Israeli attempts at isolating its events and the terrible deadly Arab silence. The Palestinian-Israeli struggle is also unique for a third reason as well. Here we have the scales so tipped in one direction and the power so uneven that the matter staggers the imagination. For "tiny" Israel is not a tiny but a mighty and efficient death machine led by modern day zealots who are blinded by their anger and rage at the entire world, it is yet the more dangerous. It has

Professor Kamel Abu Jaber is a former minister of national economy and former dean of the faculty of economics and administrative sciences at the University of Jordan. He has written several books and articles in Arab and international periodicals on Middle Eastern affairs.

the tools and the will to use them at the least provocation and when it decides to punish, it does so with a medieval mentality and a Biblical vengeance. Even so, the men, the mothers and the children of Palestine are caught up in them in a death struggle of untold cruelty.

I chose to write my first article on this topic last we forgot what is happening to our people across the river. If the whole world, East or West, Europe or America chooses to turn their face the other way, to ignore, we must not. For the moment that is the least we must do. Perhaps one day this nation that lies at the feet of world powers now, busy with its individual aches or pleasures, will rise once again.

I have no words of wisdom to offer my people in Palestine, many of whom were once my students. For the moment, unfortunately, any wisdom must come from the stones they throw. And until such time as we tame the wild Israelites, the Kahanas, the Kachis, the Hethitacs, the levellers and the Likudists, graduates of the ghettos of Europe and Hitler's death camps, we must persevere. In my own helplessness my heart screams a silent scream in your support each time each one of you uses his sling against the Goliath of Israel.

Soviet immigrants make their way into West Bank settlements

By Steve Weitzman
Reuter

OCCUPIED WEST BANK — Kira Nefedov arrived in Israel from Leningrad earlier this month.

Like most immigrants from the Soviet Union she is oblivious to the political storm around their setting in the occupied West Bank and to the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation that has raged on Ariel settlement's doorstep.

Gazing over rocky hills towards the neighbouring Arab village of Kifl Harith she looks puzzled when asked how she feels about living in a settlement in the heart of the Israeli-occupied area.

"It's very nice here. People in Ariel are very friendly and many of them speak Russian. Politics? I left politics behind in the Soviet Union," said Nefedov, 36, a chemistry teacher now seeking work as a chemical researcher.

Despite Israeli government disclaimers, Soviet Jews are steadily trickling into West Bank Jewish settlements, alarming Palestinians and angering the United States.

Others said settlement recruiters made contact at government fairs in Tel Aviv.

Some of the best known former Soviet Jews have moved to West Bank settlements, a potential magnet for zealots.

Former dissident Yosef Begun is one of 30 Soviet emigres living in Kiryat Arba, an ultra-nationalist settlement on the edge of the Arab West Bank town of Hebron. His wife is active in trying to attract new immigrants to join them.

Another well-known immigrant Yuli Edelstein, lives in the settlement of Alon Shvut, south of Jerusalem.

He predicted that all Ariel's empty housing would soon be filled by Soviet Jews and said the settlement of Maaleh Adumim, east of Jerusalem, was taking in 30 immigrants a month.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir ignited U.S. and Arab anger this month by saying a "big Israel" including the occupied territories was needed to accommodate an expected mass wave of Soviet immigration.

Officials tried to play down his remarks, citing statistics showing the number of Soviet Jews who settled in the occupied areas last year was only a fraction of total immigration.

But even a small percentage of the 50,000 to 100,000 Soviet Jews expected this year would give a

major boost to the 70,000 settlers living among 1.7 million Palestinians.

The U.S. State Department criticised Shamir's remarks as unhelpful to Middle East peace and warned against increasing settlement in the occupied areas.

Palestinian leaders appealed to Western governments in an anguished memorandum to prevent Israel from settling Soviet immigrants in what was left of the Palestinian homeland.

Many of the newcomers seem unaware of the controversy or indeed of any difference in status between Israel and the occupied territories. Their main concern is to find a quiet life, decent housing and jobs.

Most arrive at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport with no clear idea of where they want to live.

Airport officials say they try to bar settlement activists from recruiting the usually bewildered new arrivals but several immigrants said they were approached at the airport.

Others said settlement recruiters made contact at government fairs in Tel Aviv.

Some of the best known former Soviet Jews have moved to West Bank settlements, a potential magnet for zealots.

Former dissident Yosef Begun is one of 30 Soviet emigres living in Kiryat Arba, an ultra-nationalist settlement on the edge of the Arab West Bank town of Hebron. His wife is active in trying to attract new immigrants to join them.

Another well-known immigrant Yuli Edelstein, lives in the settlement of Alon Shvut, south of Jerusalem.

He predicted that all Ariel's empty housing would soon be filled by Soviet Jews and said the settlement of Maaleh Adumim, east of Jerusalem, was taking in 30 immigrants a month.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir ignited U.S. and Arab anger this month by saying a "big Israel" including the occupied territories was needed to accommodate an expected mass wave of Soviet immigration.

Officials tried to play down his remarks, citing statistics showing the number of Soviet Jews who settled in the occupied areas last year was only a fraction of total immigration.

But even a small percentage of the 50,000 to 100,000 Soviet Jews expected this year would give a

on Jan. 10.

General Pastor left behind chronic food shortages in Romania when he emigrated to Israel. He found his welcome in Ariel too good to be true.

"I couldn't eat for the first two days, there was such a choice and I kept thinking about my family and friends back in Bucharest," he said.

"I don't know anything about the political situation here. I must study it and then think," he added.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

They say the reforms of President Mikhail Gorbachev have opened the door to rising nationalism and anti-Semitism and the situation could get worse before it gets better.

Conable calls for sweeping changes in Latin America

MEXICO CITY (R) — World Bank President Barber Conable has said that restoring economic growth to Latin America after the lost decade of the 1980s required sweeping structural changes, including smaller governments.

"Except possibly in Eastern Europe, no group of nations is facing such a daunting task of reform and reconstruction," Conable said in a speech to the *Legio De Mexico*, a leading Mexican think tank.

He urged a rapid transition from central planning to free market policies throughout Latin America.

"We have learned from the experience of developing countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe that excessively centralised economic management leads to such inefficiencies that ultimately economic development comes to a halt," he said.

To address these problems, governments need to reduce their size," he said, calling for deregulation of economies and divestment of state-run enterprises to private ownership.

But he stressed that reform — including sweeping cutbacks in state subsidies — should not be carried out at the expense of the region's deeply-impooverished masses.

"A key issue that governments must tackle as they reconstruct their finances and reform their programmes is the protection of the poorest and the most vulnerable," Conable said.

"Subsidies on basic goods and services should be targeted to-

ward these groups. Experience has shown that it can be done effectively at a moderate cost, increasing welfare while making savings in total expenditures," he explained.

Conable, who is an official visit at the invitation of President Carlos Salinas De Gortari, praised Mexico, saying its recent economic reform could serve as an example for other Latin American countries.

The lowering of foreign trade barriers, stimulation of exports, more efficient use of domestic resources, curbs on inflation and moderating foreign debt growth were part of an overall success story, he said.

Conable told Reuters Tuesday that the World Bank had earmarked about \$3 billion in new loans for Mexico this year. In his speech, he said \$2 billion in World Bank funds would support the reduction of Mexico's massive commercial bank debt.

"My personal estimates show Arab investments abroad are \$400 billion," Salim Al Mazroui, head of the UAE Investment Office in London, was quoted as saying by Al Bayan newspaper.

'Arabs have \$400b abroad'

ABU DHABI (R) — A top United Arab Emirates (UAE) investment official, in remarks published Friday estimated that Arab investments abroad stood at \$400 billion.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, January 25, 1989		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	French franc	114.8 115.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	453.4 457.9	Dutch guilder	346.0 349.5
Swedish crown	106.8 107.9	Italian lira (for 100)	52.5 53.0
Belgian franc (for 10)	186.7 188.6		

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Aeroflot orders Airbuses worth \$350m

TOULOUSE, France (R) — The West European consortium Airbus Industrie has said Soviet carrier Aeroflot had ordered five of its airliners in Moscow's first purchase of Western-built passenger jets.

Airbus said in a statement that Aeroflot had ordered five A310 twin-engined medium to long-range airliners in a deal Soviet officials said was worth \$350 million.

Alexander Aksenov, vice minister for civil aviation, told a news conference President Mikhail Gorbachev's liberalisation of Soviet society had increased demand for air travel.

"Perestroika has simplified the process of entering and leaving the country, and that has increased demand for air travel. We therefore turned to foreign planes," he said.

Aeroflot will pay hard currency for the five jets through a consortium of four banks setting up a special-purpose company that will then lease the aircraft to Aeroflot for 10 to 12 years, a senior Soviet official said.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Andreotti urges fighting starvation

ROME (R) — Money saved from disarmament because of reduced tensions between East and West should be used to feed starving people in the Third World, Italy's prime minister has said. The fall of communist regimes in Eastern Europe over recent months has led to a new "climate of confidence" Giulio Andreotti told the annual meeting of the U.N.'s International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). "As a result, the aim of sending major funds to fight hunger and poverty by using resources burnt for the arms race in the past is less a utopia than a possibility for the near future," he said at the start of the three-day session. Andreotti pledged that Italy, the fifth largest contributor to Rome-based IFAD, would encourage reduced tension and increased development aid.

Algerian oil workers form union

ALGIERS (R) — Workers in the Algerian state hydrocarbons firm Sonatrach have formed a trade union independent of the official one linked to the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN). The Algerian news agency APS has said. APS said 914 of the 1,130 workers in Sonatrach's oil production department had voted to form the union because the official UGTA (Union Generale des Travailleurs Algériens) had not cut itself off from the FLN. The UGTA was until last year the only national trade union in the country, and its directors were required to be FLN members. But after political reforms ended the FLN's 27-year-old monopoly on political life workers in several sectors of the economy began to organise independently, saying the UGTA was no longer representative. UGTA Secretary-General Tayeb Belakhdar said earlier this month the union should be independent of any political party, but its FLN links have not yet been severed.

Bronfman widens business in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Claridge Israel Inc., controlled by Canadian businessman Charles Bronfman, has agreed to invest \$16 million in an Israeli company that manufactures electronic inspection systems, Claridge announced Thursday. The transaction will give Claridge a 23 per cent stake in Optrotech, which is in Ness Ziona south of Tel Aviv, according to Jonathan Kolber, Claridge's president. "We like the management, financial situation, products and the potential," Kolber said. It was Claridge's second major investment in an Israeli high-tech firm in recent months.

Last November, Claridge Israel agreed to buy 25 per cent of ECI Telecom Ltd. for \$22.4 million. ECI Telecom makes telecommunications equipment. Claridge had announced plans to invest in Israeli industries with export potential after selling its stake in the Supersol Ltd. supermarket chain for \$20.7 million last year. Claridge also has minority holdings in Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, one of Israel's largest and most profitable companies, and in Luzz Industries Ltd., a solar energy company.

Iran denies seeking IMF loans

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has denied reports that it asked for loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or the World Bank to finance its post-war reconstruction. The Iranian news agency IRNA said that central bank governor Mohammad Hossein Adeli denied a Reuter report that Iran planned to resume borrowing from the IMF and the World Bank. "Adeli told IRNA that Iran had held no talks with IMF and World Bank officials on extension of any loans or credits," the agency said in a report. Reuters has quoted a Japanese foreign ministry official as saying Adeli had told foreign ministry director-general of Middle Eastern and African affairs, Mitsuru Watanabe, that Iran had recently received a World Bank mission to discuss credits. Iran also expected an IMF delegation in January, the official had quoted Adeli as saying. President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani supports the use of foreign credit to finance major development projects.

Bush announces aid to Panama

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush Thursday announced a \$1 billion U.S. aid package for Panama aimed at reviving the country's battered economy and assisting recovery from last month's American invasion. "The economic challenges that Panama faces are great, but we will work with the people to build a prosperous democratic nation," Bush said at a news conference. His plan will provide money for housing, emergency public works, business and economic assistance, loans, guarantees and export opportunities. Only \$500 million is new money that will come from other, not-yet-identified government programmes. The balance is made up of loans, commercial credits and debt relief. Bush said Vice President Dan Quayle, who will visit Panama this weekend as part of a trip that will also take him to Honduras and Jamaica, would review details of the plan with Panamanian President Guillermo Endara.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



Jordan Times

Tel: 667171

I WONDER WHAT I CAN DO TO MAKE THAT LITTLE RED-HAIRED GIRL NOTICE ME...

MAYBE IF I WALK AROUND THE ROOM A BIT... I'LL BET SHE NOTICES ME NOW...

ESPECIALLY AFTER I GET MY SLEEVE CAUGHT IN THE PENCIL SHARPENER...

Peanuts

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TALEE

VICLI

MUTTUL

TANIED

ANSWER: A

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: FAVOR BISON WHOLLY MAGNUM

Answer: What that beastly wallflower was hoping to do with the man of her choice — GROW ON HIM

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1990

I DB announces loans

JEDDAH (AP) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has announced new loans to the tune of \$151.5 million to member states to finance development projects and foreign trade operations.

The new finances included, among others, \$17 million to Egypt to purchase electricity equipment for a water purification plant west of Cairo, \$12 million to Bangladesh to establish a factory for the production of good quality paper for banknotes and security documents, and \$20 million to Libya to finance the import of intermediary goods.

The Jeddah-based IDB, financial arm of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), was established in 1975 and has since extended more than \$10 billion in the form of soft loans, technical assistance and grants.

The bank conducts operations according to Islamic laws, which means it charges no interest. The interest-free loans are repaid in periods ranging between 10 and 25 years with grace periods of two to five years.

The bank also extends non-refundable grants to Muslim countries living in non-member states.

Japanese inflation soars

TOKYO (R) — Japanese inflation soared to its highest level in five years in 1989 as a politically unpopular sales tax pushed up prices.

The Economic Planning Agency said Friday that consumer prices jumped 2.3 per cent last year, after rising a meagre 0.7 per cent in 1988.

For Japanese investors, the ability to obtain such a high return without risk is bound to be remarkably attractive," said Seiichi Kaneko, manager of research in the international asset management division of Asahi Mutual Life.

Nevertheless, Kaneko predicted, "there won't be any massive exodus of money from the U.S. over the course of the year."

Some stock portfolio managers may "liquidate some of their U.S. holdings to realise currency gains to offset recent losses in the Tokyo market," he said.

But, he added, after the new Japanese fiscal year starts April 1, those managers probably will reinvest in the United States.

But if Japanese government bonds continue to hover at about seven per cent, investment in U.S. treasury bonds will be hurt at the time of the next auction, expected early in February, he said.

"We haven't sold any U.S. bonds lately... and we'll continue to buy," he said.

However, Nogami added, with Japanese interest rates rising, "Japanese bonds are fairly attractive," especially as they carry no currency exchange risk for Japanese investors.

The sharp rise in retail prices is bad news for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which rammed the sales tax through parliament over opposition objections and now faces a crucial general election next month.

The sales tax, along with a series of political scandals and unpopular liberalisation of Japan's agriculture markets, already cost the conservative LDP control of parliament's less powerful upper house in elections last July.

Soichi Enko, an economist at Bank of Tokyo, estimates that consumer price inflation this year will be just under two per cent.

"We will probably see some rise in underlying inflation," he said.

On an underlying basis, after factoring out the effect of the sales tax, inflation looks set to rise this year as the weak yen pushes up prices of imports; economists said.

Economists reckon that the sales tax pushed up consumer prices by 1.2 per cent last year.

On the surface, the outlook for inflation looks better this year as the one-time price impact of the sales tax disappears from the statistics.

But on an underlying basis, after factoring out the effect of the sales tax, inflation looks set to rise this year as the weak yen pushes up prices of imports; economists said.

Enko, an economist at Bank of Tokyo, estimates that consumer price inflation this year will be just under two per cent.

"We will probably see some rise in underlying inflation," he said.

After Coppola and Lucas parted ways, Coppola went on to make "Godfather, Part II," "The Conversation," and "Apocalypse Now."

Coppola's unsuccessful attempt to open a studio in Hollywood.

The studio started out as American Zoetrope, founded by Coppola and fellow director George Lucas in the late 1960s.

The financial success of "The Godfather," which grossed more than \$86 million and won a 1973 Oscar for best picture, pulled the studio out of financial trouble temporarily.

After Coppola and Lucas parted ways, Coppola went on to make "Godfather, Part II," "The Conversation," and "Apocalypse Now."

Coppola and Lucas re-teamed to make "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Raiders," Coppola and Lucas parted ways again.

Coppola then directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

After "Indiana Jones," Coppola directed "Raiders" and Lucas directed "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom."

Sports

Lewis feels good about record

RALEIGH (R) — Olympic champion Carl Lewis feels as good about being made the 100 metres world record holder than he would like to go out and run even faster.

The American star had his 1988 Olympic final's clocking of 9.92 seconds installed as the 100 metres record last weekend when the International Amateur Athletic Federation stripped disgraced Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson of his 1987 world record of 9.83 seconds because of admitted drug use.

"Over the years I have run very hard honestly," Lewis told Reuters in a telephone interview on Thursday from his Houston office. "I've been very consistent and I've won a lot of races, and to officially own that record is a good feeling."

The goal, now, he said, is to run faster. "I do believe I have the capability still," Lewis, 28, said.

Johnson had run even faster — 9.79 seconds — in defeating Lewis in the Seoul Olympics final but he lost that time and the gold medal after testing positive for steroids.

Lewis said he thought he deserved to be the record holder because he had competed within

the rules.

"People, of course, are always going to say, 'look at how you go it,' but there's going to be absolutely nothing I can do with that," Lewis said.

Lewis has put together a light schedule for 1990.

"I plan to compete in only seven to nine meets," said Lewis, adding that two probably would be in the United States and the remainder in Europe in late July and August.

His European agenda could include an attempt at the long jump world record at a high-altitude site in Sestriere, Italy, but Lewis, the two-time Olympic long jump champion, stressed that no decision had been made.

Previously, Lewis had avoided jumping at high altitude, but he said he had received offers to try and break Bob Beaman's 1968 world record at either Mexico City, where Beaman made his jump, Colorado Springs, Colorado, or Sestriere.

Lewis said he was unsure whether a 100 metres race against Johnson would come off in September, when the Jamaican-born Canadian's two-year suspension ends.

Lewis said he thought he deserved to be the record holder because he had competed within

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SAMAWI
& TANIAH HIRSHON,
C-MAN TRIVIA MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

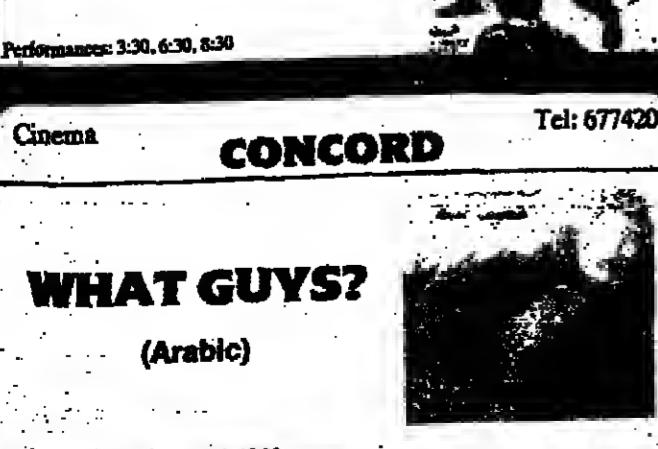
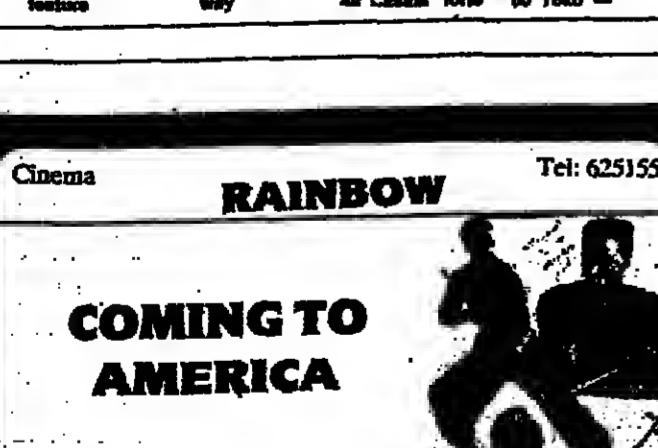
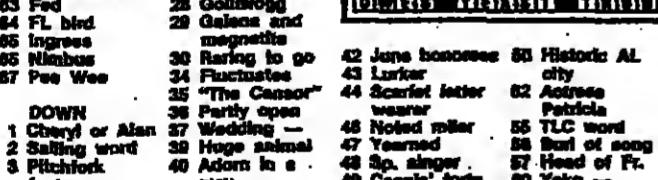
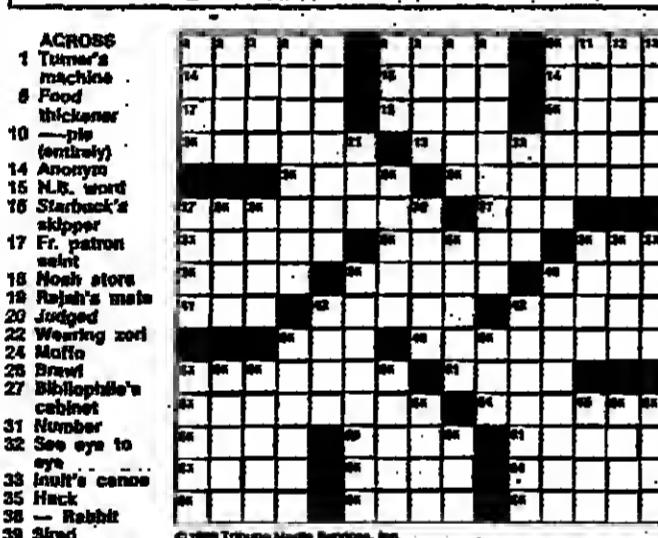
Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A93 ♦AK8 ♦K1862
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦Q95 ♦AK1872 ♦1854
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 0 1 ♦
1 NT Pass?
What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♦K162 ♦A153 ♦Q1862 ♦183
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 0 1 ♦
1 NT Pass?
What do you bid now?

Look for answers on Monday.

THE Daily Crossword



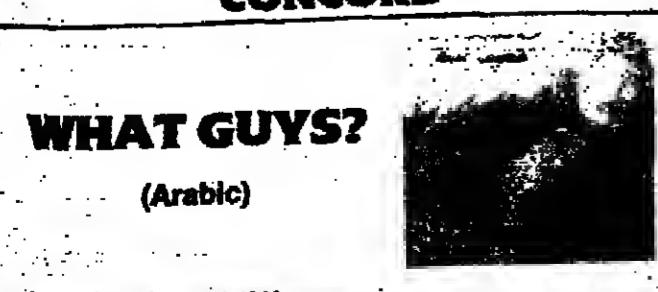
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW
COMING TO
AMERICA

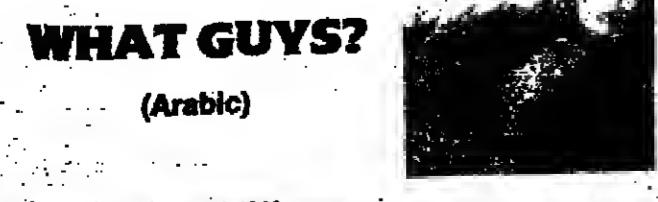
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema Tel: 677420



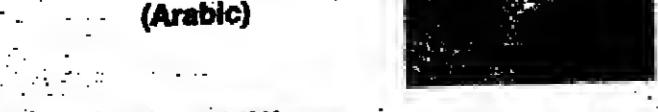
Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420



Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420



Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

</div

Paramilitary forces kill 9 in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (Agencies) — Indian paramilitary forces shot dead at least nine people when thousands of protesters attacked them in the Kashmir valley town of Handwara, witnesses and officials said Friday.

In Srinagar, centre of a week-long separatist revolt in Kashmir, soldiers and police lined the streets broadcasting warnings that they would shoot curfew-breakers on sight.

Officials said that in Handwara, 80 kilometres northwest of Srinagar, thousands of demonstrators surrounded a truck taking food to border security forces Thursday night. The men on the truck opened fire, killing nine, they said.

One witness, contacted by telephone in Handwara, said he counted 10 gunshots scarred bodies in one local hospital after the clash.

Officials said at least 40 people were injured.

Witnesses said that after the truck left, the crowd drove security forces out of the local police station and ransacked it before setting fire to other government buildings.

More than 50 people have died in a week of protest in Srinagar as townspeople rallied behind militants demanding independence for Jammu and Kashmir state or secession to neighbouring Pakistan.

On Thursday evening, India's new governor in Kashmir, Jagmohan, interrupted state television broadcasts to warn he would enforce order and militants must take the blame for any loss of life.

East German coalition government cracks

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — East Germany's fragile government began to crumble Thursday when one of five member parties quit, pushing Communist Prime Minister Hans Modrow into a corner and making a grand coalition with the opposition more likely.

The Christian Democrats (CDU) said they were pulling their three ministers, including Deputy Premier Lothar de Maiziere, out of the nine-week-old administration that was thrust into the political vacuum as a stop-gap until May 6 free elections.

"The present government, through no fault of ours, has plunged into a crisis which the CDU can no longer tolerate," the party said in a statement unanimously adopted at a meeting in East Berlin.

It said the other parties — the Communists, Liberal Democrats, National Democrats and Farmers' Party — should also leave and pave the way for an emergency cabinet uniting the established parties and the opposition that began sweeping the Stalinist old guard from power in October.

The smaller parties could follow suit. The National Democrats have said they have nothing against relinquishing their two posts in the 27-strong cabinet.

Meanwhile, the embattled premier has been invited to visit Moscow Tuesday for talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, the ADN news agency said. It described the planned meeting as a "working visit," but gave no other details.

Modrow's government was forced Thursday to agree to major concessions to encourage free enterprise because of growing pressure for market reforms and

On Friday, there was a near total news blackout. Telephone lines of many local journalists were not functioning, the public telegraph office was under armed guard and foreign journalists were confined to a hotel with security forces posted outside.

In New Delhi, the government has toughened its stance, and in messages clearly directed at Pakistan warned it would not permit any outside interference in Kashmir.

The Foreign Ministry's consultative committee in parliament passed a resolution that India would not tolerate "any interference from any quarter whatsoever" in Jammu-Kashmir, Press Trust of India news agency reported.

India has frequently accused Pakistan of aiding the Kashmiri separatists, a charge routinely denied by Pakistan.

Foreign Minister Indra Kumar Gujral told Arab ambassadors that India would "under no circumstance allow secessionist movements to succeed whatever the cost of sacrifice."

President Ramaswamy Venkataaraman, in a nationally telecast speech on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the Indian republic, appealed to the people of Jammu-Kashmir state "to give no succour to terrorism and violence."

In a clear reference to Pakistan, Venkataaraman said: "I am deeply disturbed by the fact that in some parts of the country terrorists have received encouragement and assistance from beyond our national borders."

Non-Muslim Kashmiris stage a demonstration demanding protection from Muslim extremists in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir

Storm kills 63, wreaks havoc in Western Europe

LONDON (Agencies) — A storm lashed Western Europe with torrential rains and winds up to 175 kilometres per hour, killing at least 63 people, police reported Friday. Britain was worst hit with 41 dead.

"London is virtually at a standstill," Scotland Yard reported at one stage as air, bus, subway and train services ground to a halt and rain came through the wind-damaged roof of parliament.

Rail commuters faced long delays entering London Friday morning as many trains were cancelled and others were delayed by signal failures.

Police said major British highways were open but some secondary routes remained blocked by fallen trees, a day after the storm. Motorists were killed by trees crashing on their cars. Lorries were picked up by the wind and overturned like toys.

Hundreds of people were injured by flying debris as the storm roared in from the Atlantic, carving a trail of destruction over a much wider area than a 1987 hurricane, Britain's worst storm in 300 years, which killed 19 people.

From the county of Cornwall in the far southwest to Wales, the Midlands and northeast England, transport was thrown into chaos with airports and railway stations

closed and roads blocked by trees that snapped like matchsticks.

At London's Heathrow airport an empty Jumbo jet was blown off the runway and ended up stuck in the mud.

Troops were drafted in to help restore electricity and other public utilities.

A police spokesman said: "There is so much storm-related damage our control room is not able to monitor it. Our computer system has gone wrong because we have lost so many aerials."

In Britain and northern France, 900,000 homes were without electricity.

As the storm headed into the North Sea towards Scandinavia and northern Germany, a Soviet freighter, the 4,700-tonne Briz, sent a distress signal saying it had lost power and the captain wanted to abandon ship.

A chimney was blown down at the Paluel nuclear power plant in France. State-owned Electricité de France said the plant was shut down immediately and any possible hazards would be monitored.

Dutch television also reported 153 storm-related injuries.

British Airways suspended flights from Heathrow because of the danger in loading and off-loading the planes in high winds. London weather centre warned of the risk of serious structural damage as gusts caused by a barometric depression in the Atlantic ocean swept across the city.

Windows, roofs, chimneys, scaffolding and advertising billboards all fell victim to the hurricane-force winds in Britain and on the continent.

windshield in west London.

The sealink car ferry Chartres, carrying 80 passengers and 50 crew members from the English port of Newhaven to Dieppe, France, sent out a distress signal after its engines broke down and the rudder failed to respond, the French coast guard said.

Rescuers scrambled from Cherbourg and Le Havre to help the troubled vessel, but crew members managed to repair the ferry sufficiently to head for Dieppe.

Virtually all other ferry traffic across the channel was shut down, the coast guard said.

Air traffic was halted at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport for several hours, and dozens of flights were cancelled, Dutch television reported.

British Airways suspended flights from Heathrow because of the danger in loading and off-loading the planes in high winds.

London weather centre warned of the risk of serious structural damage as gusts caused by a barometric depression in the Atlantic ocean swept across the city.

Windows, roofs, chimneys, scaffolding and advertising billboards all fell victim to the hurricane-force winds in Britain and on the continent.

The RRC blamed the rebel Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) for the rise in the numbers of people needing food aid, saying the TPLF's "aggression" had disrupted harvesting of otherwise good crops late last year.

"A total of 662,709 tonnes of food aid is required to help 3,383,670 people in various parts of the country who will face food shortages in the current Ethiopian year due to the combined effects of drought and man-made problems," the state-run Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) quoted the

RRC as saying.

The RRC's latest assessment included for the first time Gondar province and the north of Shoa.

These were less affected by last year's drought, but a rebel alliance led by the TPLF advanced into both areas at the end of last year.

The TPLF, which is fighting to overthrow the Marxist government of President Mengistu Haile Mariam, overran the whole of Tigre province last March and has since advanced south into Gondar and Wollo.

"The problem caused by the rebels in the northern regions of Tigre, Gondar, Wollo and northern Shoa, have forced peasant farmers in the region to abandon production," the RRC said.

Given the favourable rains in the region, the peasants could have had greater food production if their activities were not disrupted by rebel aggression," it added.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) says 375,000 tonnes of food has been pledged to help Ethiopia so far.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) estimated last December that Ethiopia would need 1.1 million tonnes of food aid this year, 700,000 tonnes to deal with the drought crisis and another 400,000 tonnes to cover the country's structural food deficit.

Relief agencies are faced with the problem of how to get famine relief supplies to around one million drought victims behind rebel lines in Tigre province, which is now completely controlled by the TPLF.

But the government last week gave the go-ahead for a group of local church relief agencies, the Joint Relief Partnership (JRP), for a pilot scheme to truck food across the lines to three towns in the worst-hit part of northern Tigre.

During the previous droughts in 1984/85 and 1987/88, relief agencies were able to distribute food aid from government-held towns in the province, but the army lost its last foothold in Tigre 10 months ago.

Ethiopia says 3.4m people need food aid

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The Ethiopian government doubled its estimate of the number of drought victims needing food aid to 3.4 million Friday.

Announcing the new estimate, the government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) appealed for nearly 663,000 tonnes of food aid to help starving peasants in the north of the country, whose plight has been made worse by the ravages of civil war.

The RRC originally estimated in October that only 377,400 tonnes of food would be needed to assist 1.85 million drought victims in the northern provinces of Eritrea, Tigre and Wollo.

But its latest figures are in line with estimates of the Un-

ited Nations and international relief agencies that up to four million people in northern Ethiopia will need food aid this year.

The RRC blamed the rebel Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) for the rise in the numbers of people needing food aid, saying the TPLF's "aggression" had disrupted harvesting of otherwise good crops late last year.

"A total of 662,709 tonnes of food aid is required to help 3,383,670 people in various parts of the country who will face food shortages in the current Ethiopian year due to the combined effects of drought and man-made problems," the state-run Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) quoted the

RRC as saying.

The RRC's latest assessment included for the first time Gondar province and the north of Shoa.

These were less affected by last year's drought, but a rebel alliance led by the TPLF advanced into both areas at the end of last year.

The TPLF, which is fighting to overthrow the Marxist government of President Mengistu Haile Mariam, overran the whole of Tigre province last March and has since advanced south into Gondar and Wollo.

"The problem caused by the rebels in the northern regions of Tigre, Gondar, Wollo and northern Shoa, have forced peasant farmers in the region to abandon production," the RRC said.

Given the favourable rains in the region, the peasants could have had greater food production if their activities were not disrupted by rebel aggression," it added.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) says 375,000 tonnes of food has been pledged to help Ethiopia so far.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) estimated last December that Ethiopia would need 1.1 million tonnes of food aid this year, 700,000 tonnes to deal with the drought crisis and another 400,000 tonnes to cover the country's structural food deficit.

Relief agencies are faced with the problem of how to get famine relief supplies to around one million drought victims behind rebel lines in Tigre province, which is now completely controlled by the TPLF.

But the government last week gave the go-ahead for a group of local church relief agencies, the Joint Relief Partnership (JRP), for a pilot scheme to truck food across the lines to three towns in the worst-hit part of northern Tigre.

During the previous droughts in 1984/85 and 1987/88, relief agencies were able to distribute food aid from government-held towns in the province, but the army lost its last foothold in Tigre 10 months ago.

Bush seeks death for cocaine dealers

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush, declaring the war against drugs was his biggest challenge, wants Congress to provide \$10.6 billion for the anti-drug effort and authorise the death penalty for cocaine barons and their henchmen.

All have been attempting to distance themselves from the Communists, whose four-decade grip on power was broken by a popular movement and an exodus of East German citizens last year.

Modrow has agreed to give opposition forces seats in his cabinet until free elections in May. Pro-democracy groups like New Forum, Democratic Awakening and the Social Democrats are currently excluded from the cabinet.

But its latest figures are in line with estimates of the Un-

ited Nations and international relief agencies that up to four million people in northern Ethiopia will need food aid this year.

The RRC blamed the rebel Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) for the rise in the numbers of people needing food aid, saying the TPLF's "aggression" had disrupted harvesting of otherwise good crops late last year.

"A total of 662,709 tonnes of food aid is required to help 3,383,670 people in various parts of the country who will face food shortages in the current Ethiopian year due to the combined effects of drought and man-made problems," the state-run Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) quoted the

RRC as saying.

The RRC's latest assessment included for the first time Gondar province and the north of Shoa.

These were less affected by last year's drought, but a rebel alliance led by the TPLF advanced into both areas at the end of last year.

The TPLF, which is fighting to overthrow the Marxist government of President Mengistu Haile Mariam, overran the whole of Tigre province last March and has since advanced south into Gondar and Wollo.

"The problem caused by the rebels in the northern regions of Tigre, Gondar, Wollo and northern Shoa, have forced peasant farmers in the region to abandon production," the RRC said.

Given the favourable rains in the region, the peasants could have had greater food production if their activities were not disrupted by rebel aggression," it added.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) says 375,000 tonnes of food has been pledged to help Ethiopia so far.

The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) estimated last December that Ethiopia would need 1.1 million tonnes of food aid this year, 700,000 tonnes to deal with the drought crisis and another 400,000 tonnes to cover the country's structural food deficit.

Relief agencies are faced with the problem of how to get famine relief supplies to around one million drought victims behind rebel lines in Tigre province, which is now completely controlled by the TPLF.

But the government last week gave the go-ahead for a group of local church relief agencies, the Joint Relief Partnership (JRP), for a pilot scheme to truck food across the lines to three towns in the worst-hit part of northern Tigre.

During the previous droughts in 1984/85 and 1987/88, relief agencies were able to distribute food aid from government-held towns in the province, but the army lost its last foothold in Tigre 10 months ago.

ANC backs Mandela's policy statement

Column

British sex scandal spills over into court

LONDON (R) — A former miss India was at the centre of a court battle this week between two of Britain's leading Sunday newspapers.

A line of police with shotguns and tear-gas blocked the demonstrators about two kilometres from the pitch.

The demonstrators stood face-to-face with the police for three hours while their leader, lawyer Krish Naidoo, negotiated with senior officers and South African cricket chief Alf Bacher in a bid to march on the cricket ground.

Naidoo cited Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok as saying that protests against the cricket tour would be permitted so long as they were peaceful.

Bacher said he would support a non-violent protest, but a police general, apparently after buried consultations by telephone with Justice Minister Kobi Coetsee, finally declared that the gathering was illegal.

Naidoo told reporters: "Ali Bacher made promises about our right to protest, but the police have other views."

Bacher offered to drive to a magistrate to seek permission for the protest, but the demonstrators lost patience.

They streamed back into town, plucking branches from trees as they ran. Watched by horrified white shoppers, they fought running battles with baton-wielding police before scattering.

Police had no immediate estimate of the damage.

The violent end to the confrontation at the first match of the tour appeared to make it less likely that police would tolerate unauthorised protest in future.

Black youths reacted with similar violence in Cape Town last week when police used a water cannon to break up a protest against segregated schooling.

The